

**WE CLAIM:**

1. A method for selectively deleting messages received by a  
radio telephone, the method being effected by the telephone and the  
5 method comprising:

detecting when the telephone has moved from a previous  
coverage area to a current coverage area;

selectively obtaining a set of coverage area specific  
messages stored in a memory associated with the telephone, the  
10 coverage area specific messages being from a set of messages  
received when the telephone was in the previous coverage area;  
and

automatically deleting the coverage area specific messages  
from the memory.

15 2. A method for selectively deleting messages, as claimed in  
claim 1, wherein the selectively obtaining is effected by only selecting  
messages that are presumed to be generic messages sent by a service  
provider of the previous coverage area.

20 3. A method for selectively deleting messages, as claimed in  
claim 1, wherein the selectively obtaining is effected by only selecting  
messages sent from one or more telephone numbers that do not  
correspond with any numbers stored in a telephone book database of  
25 known personal numbers, inserted by a user, that are identifiable by the  
telephone.

30 4. A method for selectively deleting messages, as claimed in  
claim 1, wherein the selectively obtaining is effected by only selecting  
messages that have a content presumed to include generic advertising.

5. A method for selectively deleting messages, as claimed in  
claim 4, wherein the content may be presumed to include generic  
advertising by searching each of the messages for selected words.

6. A method for selectively deleting messages, as claimed in claim 1, selectively obtaining may include requesting confirmation from a user that a message is one of the coverage area specific messages.

5 7. A method for selectively deleting messages, as claimed in claim 1, wherein the obtaining is effected after arrival of the telephone at the current coverage area.

10 8. A method for selectively deleting messages, as claimed in claim 1, wherein the obtaining is effected before the telephone leaves the previous coverage area.

15 9. A method for selectively deleting messages, as claimed in claim 1, wherein the detecting is characterized by detecting that the telephone has moved from the previous coverage area to the current coverage area when there is a change in a service provider cell communicating with the telephone.

10. A method for selectively deleting messages, as claimed in claim 1, wherein the detecting is characterized by detecting that the telephone has moved from the previous coverage area to the current coverage area when the telephone moves from one cell to another cell or from one country to another country.